

Docket No. 22-0074

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

David A. Wright, et al.

Serial No.: 09/408,808

Filed: September 29, 1999

For: VIRTUAL PATH ASYNCHRONOUS  
MODE SWITCHING IN A PROCESSING  
SATELLITE COMMUNICATION  
SYSTEM

Examiner: J. Contee

Group Art Unit: 2681

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AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed August 12, 2002, please enter and consider the  
following amendments and remarks.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following for the Abstract beginning on page 38:

The present invention provides a method (100) for virtual path switching of an ATM cell  
on a processing communications satellite. The method includes establishing a set of VPIs (104)  
associated with output ports on the satellite and assigning one VPI to an ATM cell (108). The  
ATM cell may then be received by an input port of the satellite (110). An associated output port

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